Bayside Entertainment brightens National Cherry Festival

The National Cherry Festival is pleased to announce its Pepsi — Kentucky Fried Chicken Bay Side Stage roster of entertainment for the 79th Festival season. This year's music stage is presented by Blue Cross/Blue Shield/Blue Care Network of Michigan, Charter Communications and TV 7&4. The National Cherry Festival will kick off an eight-day entertainment schedule with Little Feat the Band, presented by Miller Lite, taking to the stage on Saturday, July 2.

Little Feat the Band, a band with a decade of music on the road, features eight bluesy musicians with a sometimes-southern rock flavor. Lead guitarist and vocalist Paul Barrere, along with Sam Clayton on percussion, infuses their sound with "the rock 'n roll doctor" Lowell George to bring a mixture of sound to the stage. Friends with legends like Jimmy Buffet, Little Feat the Band has had their tunes played by blues, rock, and folk artists throughout the country for over 30 years.

On Sunday, July 3, Chateau Grand Traverse sponsors an evening of Festival Wine Tasting complemented by Three Men and a Tenor on stage. This night of acapella will be perfect for the entire family to enjoy on the shores of West Grand Traverse Bay.

In celebration of America's birthday, July 4, Traverse City's own ENCORE SOCIETY will perform Monday evening. The band features local artists performing a perfect mix of music for a holiday evening in the heart of Downtown Traverse City.

Tuesday night, July 5, country music takes center stage with Dierks Bentley, following the AAA Michigan Heritage Parade. Dierks offers a creatively fresh, but "pure" country approach to singing and songwriting. Moving to Nashville at age 19, Dierks immersed himself in the Nashville music scene, learning by playing gigs in clubs and bars. With a mix of bluegrass, Dierks brings "country" home in every song he sings. Hits with his up-beat tempo include: "What Was I Thinking," "How Am I Doin" and "Forget About You." Dierks will make country fans want to get up and sing and clap their hands all night long at the shores of West Grand Traverse Bay.

Back by popular demand is 1964 The Tribute, presented by Netlink Business Solutions, performing tunes reminiscent of the Beatles era on Wednesday evening, July 6. An evening packed with fun for the entire family is sure to be one of the most popular Bay Side nights!

Thursday, July 7, rock and roll icon Eddie Money WILL perform at the National Cherry Festival. Presented by Labatt Blue, Money takes the stage with all-time hits like, "Two Tickets to Paradise" and "Baby Hold On To Me." Known as one of the hardest workingmen in rock and roll, Money will celebrate his 27th anniversary as a staple in a sometimes-finicky business. He has recorded over a dozen albums, and has done numerous projects in television and film. Money has penned several theme songs for Major League Baseball, and has been seen in the recent year on "The Drew Carey Show" and in the film "Joe Dirt." An accomplished musician, he sings, writes and plays the saxophone, harmonica and piano.

Adult Contemporary artist John Waite, presented by Mike's Hard Lemonade, hits the Bay Side Stage on Friday, July 8. Waite has hit AC charts multiple times through his three-decade career. First with the English

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